#### **Annual Report to the Mayor and Council**

FROM:

Noise Control Board

Alan Stillwell, Chairman

DATE:

December 1, 2022

I. What is the purpose of the Board? (As stated in the City Code or establishing Resolution):

The Board advises the City in noise control efforts and holds noise board hearings as required by the City Code, Chapter 138 Adopted by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park 9-10-1985 by Ord. No. 85-O-5; amended in its entirety 3-24-1998 by Ord. No. 97-O-25. Subsequent amendments noted where applicable.

- A. Creation and membership.
  - (1) There is hereby created a Noise Control Board to assist and advise the City in its noise control efforts; to coordinate the exchange of noise control information with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and other public bodies, agencies or commissions; to hold hearings and make findings; and to promulgate rules to implement this chapter.
  - (2) The Noise Control Board shall consist of five members, four of whom shall be appointed by the Council members, one from each of the four election districts, and one of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor.
  - (3) In addition to the foregoing membership, there shall be two alternate members appointed at large by the City Council who may attend all Noise Control Board meetings. In the absence of any regular member of the Noise Control Board, the Chairperson may designate one of the alternate members to participate in the hearing of and decision on any matter coming before the Noise Control Board. In the absence of two or more regular members of the Noise Control Board, the Chairperson shall designate one or both of the alternate members to participate in the hearing of and decision on any matter coming before the Noise Control Board.
- B. A quorum of the Noise Control Board shall consist of three members.
- C. Members of the Noise Control Board shall be appointed to terms of four years.
- <u>D.</u> The members of the Noise Control Board shall select from among themselves a Chairperson.

## II. List and briefly describe accomplishments by the Board during the past year in support of this purpose.

Our last report was submitted for calendar year 2021, during which the Board convened two virtual hearings. The first was held in April concerning a commercial property and the second in May concerning a residential property.

The outcome of each hearing is recorded in the final minutes posted to the City's website.

There were no hearings requested or held in 2022.

#### III. List and briefly describe goals for the coming year in support of this purpose:

Conduct hearings, as required by the City Code, in response to qualified complaints. Schedule regular/quarterly administrative meetings to consider recommendations, review and approve hearing minutes.

Continue to support efforts to increase public awareness of party-giver responsibility.

Meet to discuss concerns and future recommendations of the NCB.

## IV. Please identify any issues or problems that you want to bring to the attention of the City Council:

There are no concerns or recommendations at this time.



# CR:308 & CR:310 Basic Class 2 Sound Level Meters

For routine noise level testing and basic noise at work measurements

#### What are the CR:308 and CR:310?

The Cirrus Research CR:308 and CR:310 basic sound level meters are Class 2 instruments suitable for routine noise level testing and basic noise at work measurements\*. The data information provided by the CR:308 and CR:310 sound level meters is accurate and reliable, meeting international standards for Class 2 accuracy.

#### How the CR:308/CR:310 will benefit you

The CR:308 and CR:310 are entry-level sound meters and are incredibly easy to use. They are the perfect solution for users who are new to noise measurement and need to routinely check on noise levels.

Both models provide sound pressure (SPL), maximum sound level (Lmax) and Cpeak data. They also display A and C frequency weightings, as well as Fast (F) and Slow (S) time weightings, which many other basic sound level meters available on the market cannot.

The CR:308 is a general purpose digital sound level meter, designed to IEC 61672 to Class 2. The instrument features Max and Minhold for the duration of your measurement and a customisable threshold trigger, displaying a visual alert on the display when a pre-set noise level is reached and/or exceeded.

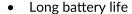
The CR:310 is an integrating sound level meter, providing average noise level data (Leq) and the overall dose values (LEq8h). This allows the CR:310 to be used for basic workplace noise assessments. CR:310 measurement data can also be printed directly using the optional portable printer.

#### **Applications**

- Routine testing of noise levels
- Machine maintenance and testing
- Noise ordinance surveys
- Fire alarm testing
- Basic workplace noise assessments\*

#### Key features

- No time spent learning complicated instrument as the CR:308 and CR:310 are incredibly easy to use
- Data is easy to read on the large backlit LCD display
- Offers more functionality than other entry-level meters, with frequency and time weightings, and LMax and Cpeak as standard
- Get alerted when the noise exceeds a set level, with the adjustable noise level threshold alarm (CR: 308 only)
- Carry out basic occupational noise measurements with Leq and Leq8h data (CR: 310 only)

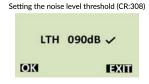


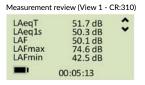




## The CR:308 and CR:310 at a glance

Main screen (CR:308)





Tm 00:05:27 LAeq1 51.8dB LAeq8h 32.3dB PRINT EXIT

Measurement review (View 2 - CR:310)

### **Technical specifications**

Applicable standards IEC 61672-1:2013 Class 2

Measurement range 30 dB (A) ~ 130 dB (A) 40 dB (C) ~ 130 dB (C)

Frequency weightings A & C

Time weightings Fast (F) & Slow (S)

**Display functions** Normal, Max, Min, C Peak

Measurement functions LAF, LAS, LCF, LCS, LCpk Leq (CR:310), LEq8h (LEX) (CR:310)

Noise floor < 25 dB (A) and 35 dB (C)

Display flags Threshold limit, overload, under-range Auto-calibration range ±4.5dB

Reference point 94dB (1kHz), 92.9dB (8kHz)

Settling time 60s

Display Backlit 128×64 LCD

Resolution 0.1 dB

**Electrical outputs** AC (3.5mm jack) and DC (3.5mm jack)

**Electrical inputs** 5V power in via mini USB

2 x AA/LR6 1.5V batteries 5V DC via mini USB

**Battery life** 24 hours

Microphone

½ pre-polarised elecret condenser

Operating temperature 0°C to +40°C

Operating humidity 25% ~ 90%

Atmospheric pressure 65 kPa ~ 108kPa

Storage temperature -20°C to +60°C

**Dimensions** 215mm×68mm×32mm

Weight 220g (including battery)

DC output Voltage 15mV/dB, range 450mV ~ 1950mV

**AC** output RMS 2V

\*only applicable to CR:310 model

## Product ordering codes and available accessories

Basic class 2 sound level meter	CR:308
Class 2 integrating sound level meter	CR:310
Portable thermal printer for use with CR:310	PR:311
Acoustic calibrator	CR:514
Carry case for meter, calibrator and portable printer	CK:380
CR:308 sound level meter kit, including meter, calibrator and case	CK:381
CR:310 sound level meter kit, including meter, calibrator and case	CK382
Microphone windshield	UA:30X
Carrying pouch	CP:65











§ 15-32

## ARTICLE VII Noise Control Board [Adopted 2-22-1994 by Ord. No. 94-O-1]

#### § 15-32. Duties and responsibilities.

The Noise Control Board shall perform those functions enumerated in § 138-3 of Chapter 138 of the College Park Code, entitled "Noise."

#### § 110-2. Penalties. [Last amended 10-8-2002 by Ord. No. 02-O-4]

Unless otherwise noted herein, the violation of a City ordinance or resolution is a municipal infraction. The following fines and/or imprisonment for violations of various ordinances or resolutions are applicable in the City of College Park:

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty		
Chapter 34, Elections				
§ 34-8	False statement	\$400		
§ 34-9	Electioneering and prohibited practices	\$400		
§ 34-11	Collection or disbursement of funds for unregistered political committee	\$400		
§ 34-12	Collection or disbursement of funds not through campaign treasurer	\$400		
§ 34-13	Failure to maintain accurate accounts	\$400		
§ 34-14	Prohibited contributions	\$400		
	Receipt of prohibited contribution	\$400		
	Prohibited expenditures	\$400		
	Campaign finance reports and individual expenditure reports:			
	Late reports (late filing fee)	\$25 per day or fraction thereof; maximum of \$250		
	Incomplete or inaccurate report; or failure to file report	\$400		
	False statement	\$400		
§ 34-17	Political matter published or distributed	\$400		
Chapter 38, Ethics, Code of				
§ 38-11	Conflicts of interest	\$400		
§ 38-12	Nepotism	\$400		
§ 38-13	Abuse of position	\$400		
§ 38-14	Disclosure of confidential information	\$400		

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty
§ 38-15	Unauthorized use of City property	\$400
§ 38-16	Discriminatory practices	\$400
§ 38-17	Conflict disclosure statements:	
	Incomplete or inaccurate report; or failure to file report	\$400
§ 38-18	Lobbying disclosure statements:	
	Failure to file	\$400
	Incomplete or inaccurate annual report; or failure to file	\$400
Ch. 78, Air Pollution		
§ 78-3B	Environmental impact statement requirement, failure to file	\$200
Ch. 87, Building Construction		
§ 87-3	Failure to obtain building permit	\$200
	For each subsequent business day which violator fails to apply for a permit	\$200
§ 87-7	Failure to abide by stop-work order	\$200
	For each subsequent calendar day	\$200
§ 87-20	All other violations of chapter	\$50
Ch. 93, Cable Televis	ion Franchise	
	Chapter	Penalties as set out in § 93-14A(1)(a) through (m)
Ch. 102, Dogs and Ot	ther Animals	
§ 102-6B	Animal found at large	
	First violation	\$50
	Second violation in 12-month period	\$100
	Third or subsequent violation in 12-month period	\$250
§ 102-11	Animal wastes:	
	First violation	\$50

§ 110-2 § 110-2

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty	
	Second violation in 12-month period	\$100	
	Third or subsequent violation in 12-month period	\$250	
	Remaining provisions of chapter (see § 102-15):		
	First violation	\$100	
	Second violation	\$200	
Ch. 115, Fire Safety	Code [Added 6-14-2016 by Ord. No	o. 16-O-03]	
Chapter			
	First violation	\$100	
	Second violation	\$200	
	Each additional 24 hours	\$200	
Ch. 119, Refuse, Solid Waste, and Special Trash [Amended 3-22-2005 by Or No. 05-O-1; 1-28-2020 by Ord. No. 20-O-01]			
Chapter	First violation	\$100	
	Subsequent violation in 12 months	\$200	
Ch. 125, Housing Regulations [Last amended 9-22-2009 by On		by Ord. No. 09-O-08]	
Art. I, General Provisions			
Art. II, Standards § 125-8I	Grading and drainage:		
	First violation	\$100	

Each additional 10 days a

violation continues is a separate

violation.

Second violation within \$200

12-month period

Third violation within \$400

12-month period

Subsequent violations within \$500

12-month period

§ 125-10F Infestation by pests:

> First violation \$50

Second violation \$100

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty
	Each additional 10 days	\$100
§ 125-10J	Exterior property maintenance:	
	First violation	\$50
	Repeat violation, for every additional 72 hours	\$100
§ 125-10K	Driveway entrance:	
	First violation	\$50
	Each additional 5 days	\$100
§ 125-10L	Off-street parking:	
	First violation	\$50
	Repeat violation, for every 5-day period	\$100
§ 125-10M	House numbers:	
	First violation	\$50
	Repeat violation for every additional 10-day period	\$100
§ 125-10N	First violation	\$200
	Repeat violation each additional 7-day period	\$400
§ 125-100 [Added 3-22-2011 by Ord. No. 11-O-02]	First violation	\$200
	Repeat violation each additional 7-day period	\$400
§ 125-10P [Added 4-12-2011 by Ord. No. 11-O-04]	First violation	\$200
	Repeat violation each additional 30-day period	\$400
§ 125-17	Firesafety laws:	
§ 125-17D	For every 24 hours that violation continues	\$1,000
	Remainder of section:	
	First violation	\$100
	Second violation	\$200
	Each additional 24 hours	\$200

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty
§ 125-24	Rodents:	
	First violation	\$100
	Repeat violation for every additional 10-day period	\$200
	Remainder of chapter:	
	First violation	\$100
	Second violation	\$200
§ 125-32	Failure to give notice	
	First violation	\$100
	Each additional calendar day violation continues	\$100
Ch. 127 (Reserved) <sup>1</sup>		
Ch. 129, Licenses and 23-O-01]	Business Regulation [Amended 2	-14-2023 by Ord. No.
§ 129-3	Article I:	
	First violation	\$100

§ 129-3	Article I:	
	First violation	\$100
	Second violation	\$200
	Each additional 5 days	\$200
§ 129-15	Article II:	
	First violation	\$500
	Each additional day	\$500

#### Ch. 132, Litter and Graffiti

Art. II, Littering

[Amended

3-26-2019 by Ord.

No. 19-O-07]

§ 132-3	Initial violation	\$1,000
	Subsequent violation	\$1,000
	Violation of remainder of Article II:	
	Initial violation	\$100
	Subsequent violations in 12 months	\$200

<sup>1.</sup> Editor's Note: The penalties related to former Ch. 127, Rent Stabilization, added 5-24-2005 by Ord. No. 05-O-2, as amended, were repealed 10-14-2014 by Ord. No. 14-O-10.

<b>Chapter/Section</b>	Violation	Penalty
Art. III, Graffiti		
§ 132-10 [Amended 10-25-2005 by Ord. No. 05-O-11]	Graffiti prohibited; responsibility	
	Initial and second violation	\$100
	Each additional 14 days	\$200
Art. IV, Shopping Carts [Added 1-12-2010 by Ord. No. 09-O-09]		
§ 132-15	Storage of shopping carts	
	Each violation	\$100
<b>Ch. 138, Noise</b>		
§ 138-5	Chapter: [Amended 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04]	
	Citation	\$500
	Repeat violation within any 12-month period	\$1,000
Ch. 141, Nuisances [I	ast amended 9-8-2020 by Ord. No	. 20-O-12]
Art. I, General		
§ 141-1	During COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency:	
	Initial violation	\$1,000
	Subsequent violation	\$1,000
	At all other times	\$50
§ 141-3A	Commercial dumpsters:	
	Initial violation	\$50
	Second violation	\$100
	Each additional 30 days	\$100
§ 141-3B	Residential dumpsters or other receptacles	
	Initial violation	\$50
	Each additional 5 days violation continues	\$100
§ 141-7	Signs and advertisments	

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty
§ 141-7A	Signs or advertisements in City rights-of-way	
	Initial violation	\$100
	Subsequent violations in 12 months	\$200
§ 141-7B	Signs in a State of Maryland right-of-way	
	Per sign	\$25
§ 141-9	Maintenance of rights-of-way:	
	Initial violation	\$50
	Second violation	\$100
	Each additional 10 days	\$100
Art. II, Unruly Social Gatherings		
§ 141-13	In any 24-month period, initial violation:	
	Responsible person	\$500
	Owner	Warning
	Second violation:	
	Responsible person	\$1,000
	Owner	\$500
	Third and subsequent violations:	
	Responsible party	\$1,000
	Owner	\$500 and suspension or revocation of the occupancy permit for the property, effective at the end of the current leasing period
	Violation of remainder of chapter:	
	Initial violation	\$50
	Second violation	\$100
	Each additional 24 hours	\$100
Ch. 144, Occupancy	Permits [Amended 4-12-2005 by O	rd. No. 05-O-3]
§ 144-3A	Failure to obtain occupancy	\$1,000

permit

<b>Chapter/Section</b>	Violation	Penalty
§ 144-3C	Failure to prevent occupancy in absence of valid permit	\$1,000
§ 144-3D	Failure to secure a written statement signed by the tenant	\$100
§ 144-3E	Removal of placard	\$1,000
§ 144-5B	False oath	\$400
§ 144-5E	During COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency, failure to disclose identity of occupants	\$1,000
	Failure to disclose identity of occupants at all other times	\$75
§ 144-8A	Chapter	\$100
Ch. 148. Peace and	Good Order: Regulation of City Re	creationa

## Ch. 148, Peace and Good Order; Regulation of City Recreational Facilities [Amended 9-13-2022 by Ord. No. 22-O-07]

Chapter \$50

#### Ch. 151 (Reserved)<sup>2</sup>

§ 151-6 Failure to return parking permit Loss of refund

#### Ch. 157, Property Maintenance

Art. I, Nonresidential Premises

§ 157-4A(2) Public nuisance corrective action:

Failure to act \$100

Failure to pay fine \$200

Remainder of chapter:

First violation \$100

Second violation \$200

Each additional 30 days \$200

## Ch. 161, Recycling and Yard Waste [Amended 2-10-2015 by Ord. No. 15-O-01; 1-28-2020 by Ord. No. 20-O-01]

§ 161-3C	First violation	\$25
	Second violation in 12 months	\$50
§ 161-6	Collection by unauthorized person	\$100
	Remainder of chapter	\$25

#### Ch. 172, Streets and Sidewalks [Amended 4-13-2004 by Ord. No. 03-O-13<sup>3</sup>]

<sup>2.</sup> Editor's Note: The penalties related to former Ch. 151, Permit Parking, were repealed 6-9-2020 by Ord. No. 20-O-08.

Chapter/Section	Violation	Penalty
Unauthorized use of public property:		
First violation		\$50
Each additional 5 days violation continues		\$100
Violation of remainder of chapter		\$50
Each additional 15 days violation continues		\$100
Ch. 179, Tree and La 5-10-2022 by Ord. No	ndscape Maintenance [Added o. 21-O-09]	
Article II, Urban For	rest Protection	
§ 179-10	Removal or pruning greater than 20% of an urban forest tree - each offense	
	July 1, 2022 - February 1, 2023	\$500
	After February 1, 2023	\$1,000
§ 179-12	Failure to install replacement tree(s) or to pay fee as required	
	July 1, 2022 - February 1, 2023	\$500
	After February 1, 2023	\$1,000
Ch. 184, Vehicles and	Traffic	
Art. II, Parking Regulations		
§ 184-9H	Use of an altered City permit	\$100
§ 184-10B	Parking in an area marked by a loading zone sign with times:	
	Parking violation:	
	If paid within 31 calendar days, including date of issue	\$55
	If paid after 31 calendar days, including date of issue	\$65

<sup>3.</sup> Editor's Note: This ordinance provided for an effective date of 5-4-2004.

Violation Chapter/Section Penalty § 184-15 Handicapped spaces: [Amended 7-13-2004 by Ord. No. 04-0-5] Parking violation: If paid within 15 calendar \$255 days, including date of issue \$265 If paid after 15 calendar days, including date of issue Violation of remainder of Article II: Parking violation: If paid within 15 calendar \$35 days, including date of issue If paid within 31 calendar \$70 days, including date of issue \$80 If paid after 31 calendar days, including date of issue Service charge for collection As necessary of penalties Art. III, Parking Meters Violation of Article Parking meters and pay stations: III [Amended 5-25-2010 by Ord. No. 10-O-03] Parking violation: If paid within 15 calendar \$20 days, including date of issue If paid within 31 calendar \$40 days, including date of issue

If paid after 31 calendar days, including date of issue

of penalties

Service charge for collection As necessary

\$50

<b>Chapter/Section</b>	Violation	Penalty
Art. VII, Nonresident Parking Permits		
§§ 184-43 and 184-44	Maryland vehicle registration or nonresident permit:	
	If paid within 15 calendar days, including date of issue	\$55
	If paid within 31 calendar days, including date of issue	\$110
	If paid after 31 calendar days, including date of issue	\$120
Ch. 190, Zoning		
§ 190-13	Signs:	
	First citation	\$100
	Each additional day	\$100

#### Chapter 138

#### **NOISE**

§ 138-1.	Statement of findings.	§ 138-7.	Notice.
§ 138-2.	Definitions.	§ 138-8.	Proceedings of Noise
§ 138-3.	Noise Control Board.		Control Board.
§ 138-4.	Effect on state standards;	§ 138-9.	Imposition of a fine by Noise
	notification of state.		Control Board.
§ 138-5.	Prohibited acts and exemptions.	§ 138-10.	Copies of provisions to be provided.
§ 138-6.	Violations and penalties.		

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park 9-10-1985 by Ord. No. 85-O-5; amended in its entirety 3-24-1998 by Ord. No. 97-O-25. Subsequent amendments noted where applicable.]

#### **GENERAL REFERENCES**

Dogs and other animals — See Ch. 102.	Nuisances — See Ch. 141.
Fees and penalties — See Ch. 110.	Peace and good order — See Ch. 148.

#### § 138-1. Statement of findings.

The City Council finds that the people of this city have a right to an environment that is free from noise that may jeopardize their health, general welfare or property and that there is a substantial body of knowledge on the adverse effects of excessive noise on the public health, general welfare and property.

#### § 138-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ANSI — The American National Standards Institute or its successor bodies.

BOARD — The Noise Control Board of the City of College Park, Maryland.

CONSTRUCTION — Temporary activities directly associated with site preparation, assembly, erection, repair, alteration, or demolition on roadways or private property.[Added 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

DAY — The period between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.[Amended 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

dBA — The abbreviation for the sound level in decibels determined by the A-weighting network of a sound-level meter or by calculation from octave band or 1/3 octave band.

dBC — The abbreviation for the sound level in decibels determined by the C-weighting network of a sound level meter meeting the standards set forth in ANSI S1.4-1983 or its successors. [Added 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16]

DECIBEL (DB) — A unit of measure, on a logarithmic scale, or the ratio of a particular sound pressure squared to a standard reference pressure squared. For the purpose of this chapter, 20 micropascals shall be the standard reference pressure.

DIRECTOR — The Director of the Department of Public Services of the City of College Park.

EXTRANEOUS SOUND — A sound which is relatively intense, intermittent and of short duration and is neither part of the neighborhood residual sound nor the sound source under investigation. [Added 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16]

NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDUAL SOUND LEVEL — The measured value which represents the sum of the sound from all discrete sources affecting a given site at a given time, exclusive of extraneous sounds, and those from the source under investigation. "Neighborhood residual sound level" is synonymous with "background sound level." [Added 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16]

NIGHT — The period between 8:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, and between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.[Amended 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

NOISE — The intensity, frequency, duration and character of sound, including sound and vibration of subaudible frequencies.

NOISE DISTURBANCE — Any noise that is: [Added 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

- A. Unpleasant, annoying, offensive, loud, or obnoxious;
- B. Unusual for the time of day or location where it is produced or heard;
- C. Detrimental to the health, comfort, quality of life, or safety of any individual or to the reasonable enjoyment of property or the lawful conduct of business because of the loudness, duration, or character of the noise; or
- D. Exceeds the objective standards of this chapter.

SOUND AMPLIFIER — Any radio receiving set, microphone, musical instrument, phonograph, speaker(s) or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound.

SOUND LEVEL — The measured level in decibels which represents the summation of the sounds from the sound source under investigation and the neighborhood residual sounds which affect a given place at a given time, exclusive of extraneous sound sources. In decibels, the weighted sound-pressure level measured by the use of a sound-level meter satisfying the requirements of ANSI SI.4, 1971, Specifications for Sound-Level Meters. "Sound level" and "noise level" are synonymous.[Amended 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16]

SOUND-LEVEL METER — An instrument meeting ANSI SI.4, 1971, Specifications for Sound-Level Meters, comprising a microphone, an amplifier, an output meter and a frequency-weighting network or networks that is used for the measurement of sound-pressure levels in a specified manner. Sound-level meters used to determine compliance with this chapter shall meet or exceed the specifications for Type II sound-level meters. [Amended 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

SOUND PRESSURE — Minute fluctuations in atmospheric pressure which accompany the passage of a sound wave.

§ 138-2 NOISE § 138-5

SOUND-PRESSURE LEVEL — In decibels, 20 times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of sound pressure to the reference sound pressure of 20 micropascals (20 micronewtons per square meter). In the absence of any modifier, the level is to be that of a root mean square pressure.

#### § 138-3. Noise Control Board.

#### A. Creation and membership.

- (1) There is hereby created a Noise Control Board to assist and advise the City in its noise control efforts; to coordinate the exchange of noise control information with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and other public bodies, agencies or commissions; to hold hearings and make findings; and to promulgate rules to implement this chapter.
- (2) The Noise Control Board shall consist of five members, four of whom shall be appointed by the Council members, one from each of the four election districts, and one of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor.
- (3) In addition to the foregoing membership, there shall be two alternate members appointed at large by the City Council who may attend all Noise Control Board meetings. In the absence of any regular member of the Noise Control Board, the Chairperson may designate one of the alternate members to participate in the hearing of and decision on any matter coming before the Noise Control Board. In the absence of two or more regular members of the Noise Control Board, the Chairperson shall designate one or both of the alternate members to participate in the hearing of and decision on any matter coming before the Noise Control Board.
- B. A quorum of the Noise Control Board shall consist of three members.
- C. Member terms are governed by Chapter 15, Boards, Commissions and Committees, § 15-2, Terms and appointments. [Amended 3-10-2020 by Ord. No. 20-O-03]
- D. The members of the Noise Control Board shall select from among themselves a Chairperson.

#### § 138-4. Effect on state standards; notification of state.

- A. Nothing herein shall be construed as promulgating a standard less stringent than the environmental noise standards and sound-level limits adopted under Title 3 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended from time to time.
- B. In accordance with Title 3 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the City shall send to the Maryland Department of the Environment a copy of each noise control ordinance, rule or regulation that it adopts and identify on each Zoning Map, Comprehensive Plan or other appropriate document the sound-level limits that are adopted.

## § 138-5. Prohibited acts and exemptions. [Amended 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16; 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04; 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

#### A. It shall be unlawful:

(1) For any owner or occupant of real property located within the City to make or to generate loud or raucous sound on said property, or to permit any loud or raucous

- sound to be made or generated on said property, so as to cause unreasonable annoyance or disturbance to others living or located nearby or to create a noise disturbance or permit the creation of a noise disturbance;
- (2) For the owner or occupant of real property located within the City to make any noise or operate any sound amplifier on said property, or to permit any noise to be made or any sound amplifier to be operated on said property, so as to be clearly audible to any person located beyond the property line of such property at a level higher than 65 dBA during the day or 55 dBA during the night, as such sound may be measured from any point along the curb in front of the property line upon which the noise is being generated or at any place on adjacent property, provided that the person measuring the sound shall first obtain the permission of the adjacent property owner to enter upon said property. For any multifamily unit, the sound may be measured from any point outside of the unit from which the noise emanates; and
- (3) For any person to cause, suffer, allow or permit the operation of an amplified source of sound in such a manner that it raises the total sound levels to greater than the following permissible sound level limits, when measured from within a building on an adjacent property.
  - (a) dBC above neighborhood residual sound level.
    - [1] Nights: three dBC.
    - [2] All other times: six dBC.
- (4) A person may not cause or permit the emission of prominent, discrete tones and periodic noises which exceed a level which is 5 dBA lower than the applicable level listed in this section.
- (5) A person may not cause or permit, beyond the property line of a source, vibration of sufficient intensity to cause another person to be aware of the vibration by such direct means as sensation of touch or visual observation of moving objects.
- (6) A person may not operate or permit to be operated an off-road internal combustion engine-powered recreational vehicle, including, but not limited to, a dirt bike, an all-terrain vehicle, a go-cart, a snowmobile, or a similar vehicle, on private property closer than 300 feet to a neighboring residence or the associated curtilage without the written permission of the affected resident, unless it can be demonstrated to the City that the vehicle can be operated within the noise limits specified in this section.
- (7) A person may not cause or permit noise levels emanating from construction or demolition site activities which exceed:
  - (a) Ninety dBA during daytime hours;
  - (b) The level specified in this section during nighttime hours.
- (8) For the owner or occupant of real property located within the City to permit guests or invitees to such property to make noise on adjacent property, whether public or private, where that noise, if made or generated on the property itself, would violate any provision of Subsection A of this section.

- B. It shall be unlawful for the nonresident owner of a property to permit the occupants of such property to violate the provisions of Subsection A of this section. The owner shall not be deemed to have violated this subsection unless the owner, or owner's agent:
  - (1) Has received notice from any source, that a current or prior occupant of such property has, or is alleged to have, previously engaged in conduct that violates this section regardless of whether a finding of a violation by the Noise Control Board or by a court of competent jurisdiction was made; or
  - (2) Has failed to take action reasonably calculated under the circumstances to prevent a violation of this section from occurring or recurring.
- C. A violation of this section shall be a municipal infraction, subject to the fine imposed by Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties.
- D. Each repeat violation within a twelve-month period shall give rise to a charge as set forth in Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties.

#### E. Exemptions.

- (1) The provisions of this section may not apply to devices used solely for the purpose of warning, protecting, or alerting the public, or some segment thereof, of the existence of an emergency or hazardous situation.
- (2) Only the following are exempted from the provisions of this section:
  - (a) Household tools and portable appliances in normal usage during daytime hours;
  - (b) Lawn care and snow removal equipment (daytime only) when used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications;
  - (c) Blasting operations for demolition, construction, and mining or quarrying (daytime only);
  - (d) Aircraft and related airport operations at airports licensed by the Maryland Aviation Administration;
  - (e) Motor vehicles on state lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources:
  - (f) Emergency operations;
  - (g) Pile driving equipment during the daytime hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
  - (h) Sound, except those sounds that are electronically amplified, between 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, created by:
    - [1] Sporting events (except trapshooting, skeet shooting, or other target shooting);
    - [2] Entertainment events;
    - [3] Other public gatherings operating under and within the restrictions set by a permit or permission of the City; and

- [4] Athletic contests, amusement parks, carnivals, fairs at fairgrounds, sanctioned auto racing facilities, parades, and public celebrations.
- (i) Rapid rail transit vehicles and railroads;
- (j) Construction and repair work on public property;
- (k) Air conditioning or heat pump equipment used to cool or heat housing on residential property. For this equipment, a person may not cause or permit noise levels which exceed 70 dBA for air conditioning equipment and 75 dBA for heat pump equipment;
- (l) Household pets on residential property that are maintained in accordance with local zoning requirements;
- (m) Trash collection operations between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

## § 138-6. Violations and penalties. [Amended 2-22-2000 by Ord. No. 00-O-2; 8-14-2007 by Ord. No. 07-O-16]

A. Code Enforcement or Law Enforcement Officer. When a City Code Enforcement Officer, or a state, county, University of Maryland or other law enforcement officer chosen by the City, determines, based upon the results of a test conducted using a calibrated sound-level meter, that noise is being or has been generated in violation of § 138-5A(2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7) of this chapter, a municipal infraction citation shall be issued to the violator(s) in accordance with the provisions of § 6-103 of the Local Government Article, of the Annotated Code of Maryland. In the event that more than one owner and/or more than one occupant of the real property is alleged to have violated the provisions of this chapter, a municipal infraction citation may be issued to each alleged violator. [Amended 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04; 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

#### B. Noise Control Board.

- (1) When two or more City residents submit written complaints that noise is being or has been generated in violation of § 138-5A(1), (5), (6) or (8) of this chapter, which complaints shall be delivered to the City Clerk, or postmarked, within 15 days of the alleged violation, and request a hearing before the Noise Control Board, the Director shall: [Amended 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]
  - (a) Schedule a hearing before the Noise Control Board within 30 days of receipt of complaints referred to in this section; and
  - (b) Give notice of the alleged violation to the owner and the occupant(s) of the property upon which such violation has allegedly occurred.
- (2) When a violation of § 138-5 of this chapter has been alleged in accordance with the provisions of Subsection B of this section, the Noise Control Board shall conduct a hearing for the purpose of determining whether such violation has occurred.
- (3) When the Noise Control Board determines, in accordance with the provisions of § 138-8 of this chapter, that a violation of § 138-5 has occurred, the Director shall

notify the violator of the determination of the Noise Control Board that a violation has occurred and shall cause a municipal infraction citation to be issued to the violator, in accordance with the provisions of § 6-103 of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. [Amended 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

- C. (Reserved)
- D. The City may seek court action to abate any noise nuisance in lieu of or in addition to any other enforcement remedies that may be available pursuant to this chapter.
- E. In addition, the Public Services Director shall schedule a show-cause hearing before the College Park Advisory Planning Commission as to why the City occupancy permit for the property should not be revoked for three or more violations of the provisions of this chapter that have been admitted or that have been determined in court within any twelve-month period, and may otherwise request such a hearing for violations of this chapter at his/her discretion. [Amended 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04; 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-09]

#### § 138-7. Notice.

- A. The notice required to be given by the Director in accordance with § 138-6B(1)(b) of this section shall: [Amended 2-22-2000 by Ord. No. 00-O-2]
  - (1) Be in writing;
  - (2) Include a statement of the reasons why it is being issued;
  - (3) Be served upon the owner or his agent and the occupant of the property upon which the alleged violation occurred;
  - (4) Include a statement that the hearing referred to in § 138-6B(1)(a) of this section will be held before the Noise Control Board on a specified date and at a specified time for the purpose of determining whether a violation of this chapter has occurred.
- B. Service of the notice on the owner or his agent and the occupant of the property pursuant to Subsection A(2) of this section shall be made by certified mail, return receipt requested. In the event that such notice is returned undelivered, service shall be sufficient if mailed by regular mail and posted on the property where the violation is alleged to have occurred.

#### § 138-8. Proceedings of Noise Control Board.

- A. A hearing of the Noise Control Board conducted pursuant to § 138-6B of this chapter shall be open to the public; however, members of the public shall not participate in said hearing unless designated as witnesses by either the complainant(s) or the respondent(s), unless such participation is specifically requested by a member of the Noise Control Board.
- B. The proceedings of the Noise Control Board shall be taperecorded and the recording of the proceedings shall be retained by the City for a period of not less than one year. The contents of the tape-recording shall not be transcribed, unless otherwise required by law or requested by the Noise Control Board.
- C. Minutes of the proceedings of the Noise Control Board shall be taken by the Secretary, when present, and shall be approved at the next meeting of the Noise Control Board.

- D. Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection A of this section, the Noise Control Board may, in its sole discretion, recess into closed session as part of its deliberative process with respect to alleged violations of § 138-5 of this chapter prior to announcing its decision or determination and to consider the substance of any rules and regulations to be promulgated pursuant to Subsection E of this section, provided that:
  - (1) The exercise of the authority to deliberate in a closed session shall require a motion and an affirmative vote thereupon by a majority of the members of the Board present and eligible to vote;
  - (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this section, the proceedings of the Noise Control Board after an affirmative vote to recess into closed session shall not be tape-recorded; however, minutes of the closed session shall be kept which shall not be open to public inspection unless a majority of the members of the Noise Control Board votes in favor of disclosing said minutes; and
  - (3) Following its deliberations, the members of the Noise Control Board shall reconvene in open session for the purpose of entertaining a motion with respect to the Board's determination as to whether there has been a violation of this chapter. Where the property upon which the violation in question allegedly occurred is occupied by a person other than the owner of such property, the Board's determination shall separately and specifically address whether a violation has been committed by both the owner and the occupant.
- E. The members shall adopt such other and additional rules and regulations as may be necessary with respect to procedural matters for the conduct of the hearings required by § 138-6B of this chapter.

#### § 138-9. Imposition of a fine by Noise Control Board.

- A. Except as set forth in Subsection C of this section, in the event that the Board finds that a violation of § 138-5 has occurred, it shall impose the fine set forth in Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties. [Amended 2-22-2000 by Ord. No. 00-O-2]
- B. In the event that the Board finds that the owner and the occupant of real property have each violated this chapter, the Board shall impose a fine as set forth in Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties, upon the owner and the occupant. [Amended 2-22-2000 by Ord. No. 00-O-2]
- C. In the event that there are more than one owner and/or more than one occupant, the fine shall be imposed upon each owner and upon each occupant who has been found in violation of this chapter, except that in the event that there is more than one occupant, the fine shall be divided proportionately among those occupants who have been found to have violated this chapter, with the amount of the fine imposed on each occupant rounded to the nearest dollar; provided, however, that in the event that the property is leased to a corporate entity, the fine for a violation by an occupant shall be imposed upon such corporate entity.
- D. If a violation is a first offense and is not egregious, the following mitigating factors may be considered by the Board to warrant a reduction in the amount of the fine to be imposed: [Amended 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04]
  - (1) The person subject to a fine has taken action reasonably calculated under the circumstances to prevent or mitigate future violations of this chapter, is remorseful

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- and has a present demeanor that demonstrates a sincere desire to prevent future violations of this chapter;
- (2) The person subject to a fine has apologized, prior to the hearing, to the person(s) who filed the complaint and other known persons who were disturbed by the violation.
- (3) The violation was not lengthy in duration.
- E. For each factor set forth in Subsection D above which is satisfied by the evidence, the Board may reduce the fine set forth in Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties, by \$100. In any event, the minimum fine shall be \$200. [Amended 7-12-2016 by Ord. No. 16-O-04]

#### § 138-10. Copies of provisions to be provided. [Amended 2-22-2000 by Ord. No. 00-O-2]

Owners of rental housing shall ensure that a copy of this chapter or a housing rights and responsibilities publication produced by the city is furnished to each tenant. The city shall make available a copy of this chapter or the housing rights and responsibilities publication to each applicant for an annual occupancy permit.

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## ARTICLE II Unruly Social Gatherings [Adopted 9-24-2019 by Ord. No. 19-O-13]

#### § 141-12. Definitions.

In this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE — As defined in § 1-101 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ILLEGAL CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE — A drug or substance, the possession and use of which is regulated under the State Controlled Dangerous Substances Act.<sup>1</sup> The term does not include any drug or substance for which a person has a valid prescription issued by a licensed medical practitioner authorized to issue such a prescription or is otherwise authorized by law.

PROPERTY OWNER — Any person who owns a property or has charge, care or control of a property as a legal owner

RESIDENCE OR OTHER PRIVATE PROPERTY — A residential property, including without limitation a detached, attached, or semidetached single-family dwelling, a row home, townhome, apartment, condominium, or other dwelling unit, or a yard or curtilage of a residence, a hall, meeting room, hotel or motel room, whether occupied on a temporary or permanent basis, whether occupied as a dwelling, party or other social function, and whether owned, leased, rented, or used with or without compensation, including contiguous properties, and any buildings, structures or other improvements situ a ted thereon or affixed thereto.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON — An owner of, or occupant with a right of possession in, the residence or other private property on which an unruly social gathering is conducted. A responsible person for the unruly social gathering need not be physically present at such gathering.

UNRULY SOCIAL GATHERING — A party, event, or assemblage of eight or more persons at a residence or other private property where:

- A. Alcoholic beverages are being furnished to, consumed by, or in possession of any underage person in violation of state law; or
- B. Behavior or conduct is occurring that results in a substantial disturbance of the peace and quiet enjoyment of private or public property, which may include the following:
  - (1) Excessive noise as prohibited in § 138-5 of the City Code;
  - (2) Excessive traffic that is significantly above and beyond the normal amount of pedestrian or vehicle traffic for the day, date, and time of day for the neighborhood;

 $<sup>1. \</sup>quad Editor's\ Note: See\ the\ Criminal\ Law\ Article\ of\ the\ Annotated\ Code\ of\ Maryland,\ \S\ 5-101\ et\ seq.$ 

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- (3) Use of an illegal controlled substance by any person at the gathering;
- (4) Obstruction of public streets or the presence of unruly crowds that have spilled onto public streets;
- (5) Public drunkenness or unlawful consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages;
- (6) Assaults, batteries, fights, or other disturbances of the peace;
- (7) Vandalism of public or private property;
- (8) Public urination or defecation:
- (9) Littering; or
- (10) Other conduct which constitutes a threat to the public safety, quiet enjoyment of residential or other private property, or the general welfare.

#### § 141-13. Unruly social gatherings prohibited.

An unruly social gathering is declared a nuisance for purposes of this chapter. It is unlawful for a property owner or any responsible person to conduct, cause, aid, allow, permit, or condone an unruly social gathering at a residence or other private property.

#### § 141-14. Violations and penalties.

- A. A violation of § 141-13 is subject to a municipal infraction with a penalty as provided in Chapter 110 of the Code and is a separate offense from any other violations of law or offenses that occur during an unruly social gathering.
- B. A municipal infraction based only on excessive noise will not be issued under this section if one is issued under § 138-6 of the City Code for the same occurrence. Excessive noise will not be cited as part of a municipal infraction issued under this section unless an accurate sound-level meter reading for the same occurrence is not feasible or practicable.
- C. A Code Enforcement Officer or peace officer who determines that an unruly social gathering exists in violation of § 141-13 may issue a municipal infraction for the violation to all identified responsible persons. For a first offense within any twenty-four-month period, an owner will be issued a warning. For a second or subsequent offense in a twenty-four-month period, the owner is subject to a municipal infraction. For a third offense in a twenty-four-month period, the owner is also subject to suspension or revocation of any occupancy permit for the residence or other private property.
- D. The Public Services Director may schedule a show-cause hearing before the College Park Advisory Planning Commission as to why the City occupancy permit for the property should not be suspended for one or more years, or revoked, for three or more violations of the provisions of this article within any twenty-fourmonth period.

#### § 144-5. Mandatory disclosures. [Added 11-10-1987 by Ord. No. 87-O-7]

- A. Every holder or applicant for an occupancy permit under this chapter who rents any residential property or unit for which a permit is needed shall provide the following disclosures to his or her tenants, renters or occupants as a condition to the renewal or issuance of the occupancy permit: [Amended 5-10-1994 by Ord. No. 94-O-4; 9-10-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-22; 6-8-2010 by Ord. No. 10-O-05]
  - (1) A disclosure prohibiting any tenant, occupant, visitor or guest from making or generating any loud and raucous sound so as to cause unreasonable annoyances or disturbances to others living or located nearby, as set forth in Chapter 138, Noise, of the Code of College Park.
  - (2) A disclosure enumerating the number of unrelated or related persons who are legally authorized to occupy the premises and prohibiting additional permanent occupants, as provided by Chapter 125, Housing Regulations, of the Code of College Park or the Maryland-Washington Regional Zoning Ordinance in Prince George's County.
  - (3) A disclosure requiring any tenant, occupant, visitor or guest to dispose of all rubbish and garbage in a clean and sanitary manner, as required by Chapter 125, Housing Regulations, of the Code of College Park.
  - (4) A disclosure recognizing the owner's and the occupant's collateral responsibility for maintaining clean grounds and premises, free of litter, as required by Chapter 132, Litter and Graffiti, of the Code of College Park.
  - (5) A disclosure prohibiting any tenant, occupant, visitor or guest from parking any vehicle with four or more wheels or a self-propelled vehicle with three or more wheels on the grass or lawn of the rental premises or property unless the surface is constructed of either concrete, asphalt, gravel or a similar dust- and mud-free surface, as required by Chapter 125, Housing Regulations, of the Code of College Park.
  - (6) A disclosure expressly stipulating that the owner will deliver the leased premises in a clean, safe and sanitary condition, as required by Chapter 125, Housing Regulations, of the Code of College Park and in compliance with all applicable laws.
  - (7) A disclosure expressly recognizing the owner's duty to provide or make available heat, water and hot water to the occupants and to maintain the premises in a habitable condition, as required by Chapter 125, Housing Regulations, of the Code of College Park.
  - (8) A disclosure recognizing the availability of the Community Mediation Center to address, through mediation, any housing dispute or problem that might arise between the parties.
  - (9) A disclosure wherein the owner acknowledges having given the occupants or tenants both a fully executed copy of any written housing agreement and a

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housing rights and responsibilities publication produced and made available through the City.

- A property owner shall make the disclosures required by Subsection A of this В. section by delivering to the occupants a fair summary of the provisions identified in Subsection A of this section, in a form to be prescribed by the Department of Public Services prior to occupancy. The property owner shall attest that he or she has delivered a fair summary of the provisions identified in Subsection A of this section, in the form prescribed by the Department of Public Services, to the occupants of the dwelling unit in question at the beginning of the occupancy term, by signing a statement to this effect, under oath, on the occupancy permit for the dwelling unit. In addition to constituting a cause for revocation under the provisions of § 144-7, a false oath shall be punishable as a municipal infraction under the provisions of Article 23A, § 3(b)(2) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, subjecting the violator to the penalty as set forth in Chapter 110, Fees and Penalties. [Amended 1-10-1989 by Ord. No. 88-O-6; 5-14-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-7; 12-10-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-24; 5-10-1994 by Ord. No. 94-O-4; 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
- C. A property owner shall not be obligated to provide additional copies of the fair summary to which Section B of this section refers at the beginning of a renewal term of occupancy by the same occupants who occupied the dwelling unit in the immediately preceding term, provided that such occupants previously received the fair summary, except that a property owner shall be obligated to provide such tenants with additional copies of the fair summary if: [Amended 9-10-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-22; 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
  - (1) Any tenant requests an additional copy thereof; or
  - (2) There have been intervening changes to the form of fair summary prescribed by the Department of Public Services. The landlord shall be responsible for verifying at the beginning of any renewal occupancy term that there have been no such intervening changes.
- D. The occupancy permit shall contain the agreement of the property owner to disclose, within 24 hours of the City's request, for code enforcement or other necessary public purposes, the identity of any occupants of the dwelling unit which is the subject of the occupancy permit and shall also contain the property owner's acknowledgment that the occupancy permit is issued in consideration of said agreement and may be revoked for breach of that agreement, which breach shall also constitute a municipal infraction. [Amended 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
- E. A property owner shall disclose, within 24 hours of the City's request, pursuant to Subsection G of this section, the identity of all of the occupants of the dwelling unit which is the subject of the occupancy permit. A municipal infraction citation issued for failure to disclose the identity of the occupants of a dwelling unit as required by this subsection shall not be appealable to the Advisory Planning Commission. [Amended 9-10-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-22; 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10;

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#### 9-24-2002 by Ord. No. 02-O-3]

- F. Each day during which a landlord obligated to make the disclosure required by Subsection E of this section fails to make such disclosure shall constitute a separate violation. [Added 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
- G. The City's Director of Public Services may request disclosure of the identity of the occupants of a residential dwelling unit as to which an occupancy permit has been issued whenever its code enforcement or other public purposes so require, which determination shall be made in the sole discretion of the City. Said purposes include, but are not limited to: [Added 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
  - (1) Obtaining an administrative search warrant for an annual inspection of the property or dwelling unit.
  - (2) Advising the occupants of the existence of a condition on the property which violates the City Code.
  - (3) Summoning the occupants to appear at a hearing before the City's Noise Control Board, Advisory Planning Commission or Animal Control Board. [Amended 9-24-2002 by Ord. No. 02-O-3]
  - (4) Issuing a municipal infraction or other citation for violation of any provision of the City Code.
  - (5) Verifying that the number of occupants does not exceed the number permitted by law, where the Department of Public Services has observed conditions which indicate that the property is occupied by an excessive number of occupants.
- H. A request by the City to a property owner for the names of the occupants of rental unit under Subsection G of this section shall be made in writing and shall be considered effective if delivered to the property owner, as that term is defined in § 144-2 of this chapter, the property owner's spouse or other person of suitable age and discretion residing in the property owner's home, or the property owner's employee. [Added 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
- I. Nothing contained in this subsection shall prevent the Director of the Department of Public Services or his designee from making reasonable efforts to contact the occupants in order to obtain their identities directly; provided, however, that such action shall not relieve the property owner of any obligation he may otherwise have to correct any condition of the property or to prevent or ameliorate any conduct by the occupants of such property which violates this code. [Added 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10]
- J. In the event that the Public Services Department determines that the owner has fraudulently affirmed or misrepresented his/her compliance under any subsection, the Department shall have the authority to revoke the occupancy permit after notice and an opportunity for the owner to be heard on appeal by the Advisory Planning Commission pursuant to the procedures of Chapter 125, Housing Regulations,

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§ 125-4C, of the College Park Code. The Commission's sole function shall be to determine whether or not there was a fraudulent affirmation or misrepresentation and thereby affirm or withdraw the notice appealed from. [Amended 9-10-1991 by Ord. No. 91-O-22; 10-12-1999 by Ord. No. 99-O-10; 9-24-2002 by Ord. No. 02-O-3]



2687 John Hawkins Pkwy

Hoover AL 35244 Phone 888-464-3872 Fax: 205-980-5764

Email: Calibration@ohdglobal.com

www.ohdglobal.com

### **Certificate Of Calibration**

Customer

City of College Park

**Calibration Number** 

62100 - 66950

**Date Received** 

Monday, July 17, 2023

Manufacture

Cirrus Research,plc

Model Serial #

CR:310 SH01490

#### Calibration Information

Date Calibrated 8/15/2023

Next Calibration Due By 8/14/2024

Calibration Procedure CR\_SLM\_Validation\_Procedure

Technician

Chase White

Standards Used to Perform Calibration					
Manufacture	Model	Description	Serial Number	Cal Reference Number	Cal Due
B&K	4226	Multifunction Acoustic Calibrator	2831078	CAS-601022- D4M4W4-701	10/5/2023
Cirrus Research	ZE:952	Attenuator	78136	230518001	5/18/2024
Cirrus Research	CR:511F	Acoustic Calibrator	032371	2022307-136502	9/7/2023
TTI	TGA1241	Waveform Generator	474595	2668720	10/21/2023

OHD, LLLP certifies that the unit listed above meets or exceeds all the current manufacturer's specifications. Furthermore it has been calibrated with the instruments listed above, whose accuracies are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technlogy(NIST). Devices for which there are no NIST calibration standards are measured against in-house performance standards using accepted test procedures.

This report/certificate shall not be reproduced without written approval by OHD, LLLP.

Approved By

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

Jun Wite





## **Type 2 Sound Level Meter Kits**

#### Choice of NIST Certified Kit

407732-NISTL sound level meter with single point calibration to 94dB, combined with a NIST-certified 407722 94dB/114dB, 1kHz professional calibrator

#### 407732-KIT Features:

 Complete with 407732 Sound Meter, microphone wind screen, calibration screw driver, 9V battery, plus 407722 Sound Calibrator with 9V battery. Supplied in an attractive hard carrying case that provides protection and organization for your meter and accessories

#### Model 407732

- High accuracy meets ANSI, and IEC Type 2 standards
- · High and Low measuring ranges (35 to 130dB)
- Data Hold and Max Hold functions
- · Backlit display to view in dimly lit area

#### Model 407722

- · Calibrates and verifies sound level meter operation
- · Durable double molded housing
- 1kHz sine wave at 94dB/114dB is generated to an accuracy of 4% (frequency) and ±0.5dB
- Total Harmonic Distortion (THD) <2% at 94dB

#### 407732-KIT-NIST Features:

 Complete with 407732-KIT plus NIST Certificate of Calibration of 407722 and Limited NIST calibration of 407732-NISTL (single calibration to 94dB)



#### **Ordering Information:**

407732-KIT.....Type 2 Sound Level Meter Kit 407732-KIT-NIST .....Type 2 Sound Level Meter Kit

**Individual items:** 

 407732
 Type 2 Sound Level Meter

 407732-NISTL
 407732 with NISTL Certificate

 140001
 Hard Carrying Case

407732 Specifications:	
Display	2000 count LCD
Range	Low: 35 to 100dB
	High: 65 to 130dB
Basic Accuracy	±1.5dB
Weighting (A & C)	Yes
Response Time (Fast/Slow)	Yes
Condenser Microphone	0.5" (12.7mm)
Dimensions	8.2 x 2.1 x 1.25" (210 x 55 x 32mm)
Weight	8.1oz (230g)



#### **Public Services Departmental Policy:**

#### Noise/Nuisance – Unruly Gatherings/Nuisance – Public Health/Nuisance

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: March 24, 2023

- A. Purpose: This is a statement of official Department of Public Services policy regarding administration of Chapter 138 Noise and Chapter 141 Nuisance (subsections 141-1 Danger to Public Health and 141-13 Unruly Social Gatherings) of the Code of the City of College Park.
- B. Policy: The goal of this policy shall be the safe and effective administration of the duties of the Department as established by the City Code.
- C. Operating Procedures: The following operating procedures are hereby revised and are effective immediately.

#### 1. Safety

- a. The personal safety of Code Enforcement and Contract Police Officers (CEO, CPO) answering calls for service and self-initiated enforcement actions shall be the primary consideration in all enforcement actions. At all times, CEOs shall avoid situations which would reasonably be expected to present a clear personal danger. Such situations shall include, but not be limited to, crowds of inebriated or violent people (e.g., large social gatherings, riot), reports of domestic disputes, reports of shots fired, reports of any other criminal activity in the area of a noise complaint.
- b. CEOs shall refer such violent incident calls to the Prince George's County Police dispatcher at 9-1-1, text or phone information to the on-duty CPOs and avoid the area unless requested by City Contract Police Officers, Prince George's County Police Officers, or University Police Officers to provide sound level assessments and crowd documentation after police have arrived and secured the area.
- c. If confronted with such an incident when arriving in response to a noise or nuisance complaint, the CEO shall wait at a safe distance for the arrival of either City Contract Police Officers, Prince George's County Police beat officers or University of Maryland Police Officers.
- d. CEO shall take no action which would be considered police action.
- e. CEO shall not make close personal contact or request identification with ordinance offenders, unless accompanied by a police officer.
- f. CEO shall keep the City vehicle mobile radio turned on to monitor UMPD Alerts and BOLO messages and answer calls from other City radios. UMPD Alerts and BOLO are broadcast on all City radio channels. Public Services operates on Channel A-2, DPW operates on Channel A-1.
- g. CEO shall follow this Departmental Policy, unless directed by the Code Enforcement Supervisor, Public Services Director, or City Manager to modify their response and action.

h. Ride-a-longs by the public must be approved by the Code Enforcement Supervisor or Public Services Director prior to occurrence. Ride-a-longs by other City staff, Police, or elected officials are permitted.

#### 2. On-Duty Enforcement and Response Protocol - Noise

- a. Code Enforcement Officers (CEO) on night or weekend shift duty shall make contact by mobile phone or text with the scheduled City Contract Police Officers at the start of the shift to establish communications and confirm which Contract Police Officers are on duty. If no Contract Police Officer answers, notify CPO commander by text. They are Major Keleti at 240-375-3946 and Captain Collins at 240-304-6947.
- b. CEO shall test the Code Enforcement Hotline number (240-487-3588) to verify that it is forwarding calls to the CEO's phone. This test shall include checking the transfer of calls from extension 3588 to the CEO's phone, and an active, open, voicemail box on the CEO's phone.
- c. CEO shall answer the Hotline immediately when on duty and when not engaged in another code enforcement response or activity.
- d. CEO shall answer all complaints recorded on voicemail within 15 minutes of clearing a previous call.
- e. CEO shall respond to the scene of a noise or nuisance complaint, or as close to the scene as is prudent considering personal safety, and stage with responding CPO.
- f. CEO shall obey all traffic regulations when responding to calls.
- g. CEO shall not make personal contact with the alleged offender without police assistance.
- h. CEO shall not make on scene contact with the complainant unless requested by the complainant and shall not reveal source of complaints to violators.
- i. CEO shall record a noise level reading at each incident upon arrival at, or as close as prudent to, the property line to support Municipal Infractions. Whenever possible, CEO shall take noise readings at all property lines accessible to the public, and private property lines when invited by the property owner. When time and circumstances permit, meter readings shall be taken from all sides of a property from the closest public street, public right-of-way (e.g., alley, path) or from adjacent properties with permission. Location of each reading should be noted on all documentation.
- j. CEO shall take noise level readings at all second or subsequent responses to each incident and shall preserve all meter reading data for evidence in any municipal infraction trial, Noise Control Board hearing, UM Office of Student Conduct hearing, or Court appeal.
- k. CEO shall calibrate the sound level meter according to manufacturer's directions at the beginning and end of each shift, and, when time allows, before use at each incident.
- CEO shall prepare and distribute a thorough shift summary report via email to the Director, Code Enforcement Supervisor and all CEOs for situational awareness at the end of each shift. (See attached sample)

- m. CEO shall issue a municipal infraction citation to the tenants, and property owner when prescribed by the Code, when sound level readings or CEO observations indicate a code violation.
- 3. On-Duty Enforcement and Response Protocol Nuisance
  - a. CEO shall wear PPE (face coverings, gloves, etc.) as appropriate to the event.
  - b. CEO shall document violations of Chapter 141. An estimate of crowd size shall be made. Photographic evidence shall be taken from a safe distance when possible. Violations of the Unruly Social Gathering Code (141-13) shall be documented. Violations of the danger to public health code (141-1) shall be documented when violations of the State and County executive orders and directives in effect at the time are documented.
  - c. CEO shall issue a municipal infraction citation to the tenants, and property owner as prescribed by the Code, when violations of 141-1 and/or 141-13 are documented.
  - d. CEO shall notify the Prince George's County Health Department when public health violations are documented by calling 3-1-1 and providing summary information.
  - e. CEO, CPO, Code Enforcement Supervisor or Director shall refer all UM students receiving a Notice of Violation or Municipal Infraction Citation to the UM Office of Student Conduct. CEO shall immediately issue a municipal infraction to the property owner for all infractions when a warning or prior infraction has been previously issued to that property owner. As a proactive component of the code enforcement program, CEO shall routinely patrol the City during their shift when not responding to complaints or engaged in other code enforcement assignments. CEO shall document sound level readings and crowd estimates at all observed parties, including those that are not in violation. CEO shall issue a municipal infraction in response to a noise complaint when a sound level reading indicates a violation of the code. CEO may use discretion not to issue a municipal infraction. when they have identified a loud noise source and there has been no complaint, they have measured a sound level marginally above code limits, and the person responsible for the noise has abated it and is cooperative in taking preventive measures to avoid future violations. These actions should be documented on CEO daily activity sheet. (See Attached)
- 4. Call Taking and Response Protocols:
  - a. Monitoring of the City's Code Enforcement Hotline (240-487-3588) shall be maintained 24/7/365. During normal business hours, Monday through Friday 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m., the hotline will be answered by Public Services administrative staff, who will dispatch a CEO and CPO to investigate complaints. During CEO shifts when administrative staff are not on duty the hotline shall be forwarded to the CEO mobile phone to be answered. During times when either administrative staff, or night/weekend shift CEOs are not on duty, calls to the Hotline will be forwarded to and answered by the City's answering service. Staff or the answering service will relay calls for service to on-duty CPO when there is no CEO on-duty.

- b. When CEO/Administrative Staff are on duty they shall follow the procedures described below:
  - 1. The Hotline, extension 3588, will be answered immediately.
  - 2. The Hotline number will be tested when a transfer is initiated.
  - 3. A City issued mobile phone must be with the CEO on duty and turned on. Each incoming call must be answered. CEO will answer the hotline when on night or weekend shift duty.
  - Callers should be asked to provide information including the nature of the incident, location, a call back number if they wish to be contacted by CEO or Police.
  - 5. On-Duty staff shall act as appropriate including dispatch of City Contract Police, County Police, or UMD Police. UMPD dispatch shall be notified when they are needed to assist the CEO or CPO. In addition, CEO may respond directly for minor day time noise complaints, or with Police to investigate and mitigate reported ongoing events.
  - Complainants should also be advised to contact 9-1-1, to report suspicious activity, ongoing large-scale events, vandalism, or destruction of property; and Fire-EMS related calls. City staff call taker shall also call and advise 9-1-1 of any information the caller provided, in support of the report.
  - When time and information is available, the CEO should contact property owners by phone or email, to report incidents so that they may intervene with their tenants.
  - 8. CEOs and Administrative Staff must have available current copies of Contract Police Schedule and police mobile phone number list.
  - CEO shall contact the CPO scheduled on duty and advise of CEO on-duty status to establish communications for the shift If no Contract Police Officer answers, notify CPO commanders by text. They are Major Keleti at 240-375-3946 and Captain Collins at 240-304-6947...
  - 10. CEO working evening/night/weekend shifts shall have a calibrated sound level meter in their vehicle while on patrol to respond to a noise call if necessary.
  - 11. The Public Services Incident Report form shall be completed for each call handled. (See attached)
  - 12. Monthly CEO On-Duty schedules will be prepared and distributed by assigned Staff before each month begins.

4

#### Attachment 1 - Sample Shift Summary

#### To be sent via email at end of each shift worked, listing all events for the shift

Day, Date and Shift worked (Saturday, March 18, 2023 – Night Shift)

Time CEO received call (Received call at 5:30 pm)

Action Prompting CEO response

(Received call on CE Hotline from citizen stating they wished to pay a parking ticket, after hours number given to citizen).

Time CEO arrived on scene (Arrived on scene at 5:58 pm)

#### **Details of Event**

Address. – Received anonymous call on CE Hotline advising of Loud Music coming from stated address, CEO notified On-Duty CPOs X's 4 with all information. CEO and CPOs arrived on scene, found a small wedding reception and music playing outside in front yard. A Noise Meter reading was obtained, 64 dBA. Both homeowners were advised of City's Noise ordinance Policy as well as appropriated decibels allowed during the AM and PM hours. They stated they would keep music down and take inside of residence to keep the Noise Level within limits. A Noise Meter Reading was taken prior to leaving, 56 dBA was obtained. CEO and CPOs cleared scene at 6:15 pm – Verbal Warning – Advised if returned a citation would be issued.

#### OR

Address. – Received multiple calls (3) on CE Hotline prior to arrival of Loud Music and talking loudly in front yard at stated address, CEO notified On-Duty CPO's X's 2 with all information. CEO arrived on scene and upon arrival, found 5-8 people talking loudly outside next to door with front door opened and music inside playing. A Noise Meter Reading was taken from the front curb property line, obtaining 78 dBA. CEO attempted several times to get attention from group standing in front yard, a male standing closer to CEO near front sidewalk was on phone, as CEO was awaiting arrival of CPO's male subject asked did, I ask for tenant and was the music to loud. CEO stated to individual needed to speak with tenant or property owner on scene, subject walked away, CPOs arrived on scene and contacted group near entrance of residence and requested to speak with tenant in which subject went inside and came back with tenant (name, address, identification/driver's license number and date of birth). CEO advised individual of the City's Noise Ordinance and the proper decibels allowed in AM and PM, and what the levels were upon arrival from property line and that this tenant would be issued a citation for Loud Music. Subject requested identity of complainant and was advised that this CEO was unable to give that information, however, there were multiple calls made in reference to the Loud Music and talking. CEO advised tenant on how the citation would be issued and if he wished, he could request a trial date for court. The music was turned off and subjects were sent back inside,. Prior to leaving the site, a Sound Off Noise Meter Reading was obtained from front curb property line at same location as first, obtained 52 dBA.

CEO and CPOs cleared scene at 12:55 am - 1 Noise Ordinance Citation (\$500.00) will be issued.

### **Attachment 2 – DPS Equipment Utilization Record (Daily Sheet)**

03/01/23 Fee	HCUS TOPE LESSES CYTAX PROPERTY	Cook Zell Norse:  15-012  Commonts  Find up 1 1 Norse:  Commonts  Find Declins  MR Legislatur Committer  Entry  Both  ATTILL Legislatur  ATTILL Legislatur  ATTILL Legislatur  ATTILL Legislatur
mencering/News: E = District	Court; F = Foot F = Residential Con Re-Inspection; K = Residential Con Protot/Windshield Inspection; O =	Contractor's Inspection/Annous; to a Commercial  (Training H a Procursing Papersons); 1 a Public  sphining L a Residential Inspection/Annous; 54 a Residential  Others; P a Clock BA/CAST Duty; 6 a Larest/Street.

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Type of	TI	me .	Property Add	leans & Breez			Comments			
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Attachment 3 - Nuisance Incident Report Form

				Public	Service	s Nuisance Ir	cide	nt R	Report Fo	rm				
Date			Day					Time	e Call Rece	ived			a.m. 🗆	<b>]</b> p.m.
CEO						Badge #		Time	e On-Site				a.m. 🗆	<b>]</b> p.m.
Incident Descript		Noise(138 Nuisance	•	Barking D arge Gat	•	☐ Car Alarm o	r Horn		☐ Live B☐ Unruly		☐ Loud /M Gathering		•	
		☐ Other N	Noise or N	uisance										
Location	n	☐ Addres☐ Block☐ Comple												
Property Owner(s)														
Complaid Incident		□ CE	O Discove	ered on R	outine Pa	trol 🗖 Anoi	nymou	ıs Ca	ıller [	⊒ ldenti	fied Caller			
Discover		Name							Phone #					
		Address												
Partner(s	s)	□ On	Duty CEC	ı	□ On	Duty CPO		) Oth	ner/County F	Police		On D	uty UM	PD
Partner's Name(s)														
Referrals	3	□ Ani	mal Contr	ol City	□ Ani	mal Management	Coun	ty	□ City Pa	arking	□ UM-	osc	;	
Prior Hist	tory	□ No	□ Yes											
		Tenant							☐ Written \	Warning	J Verbal	Wa	ning O	n-Site
Notices		Case #							Multiple ca	ses?□				
and		□ \$500.00	\$1,00	0.00	Municipa	al Infraction Citation	on#							
Actions b	by	Owner/Ag	ent:	□ Verba	al Warning	g On-Site	☐ Verbal Warning by Ph				Phone			
CEO		Case #							□ Written V	Varning	<u> </u>			
		\$500.00	\$1,00	00.00	Municipa	al Infraction Citati	on#	!						
Noise Me		Reading		□ dBA	□ dBC	Meter Used				Wir	nd Meter M	oh		
IAOISE IAIC		Calibration	n Before			Calibration After				Calibra	tion Date		-	
Narrative (copy this text for si summary email)	is shift													

# CITY OF COLLEGE PARK COMMUNITY NOISE ENFORCEMENT

- I. Introduction Robert W. Ryan, Public Services Director
- II. City Code References:
  - a. Chapter 15, Article VII Noise Control Board
  - b. Chapter 110-2 Penalties
  - c. Chapter 138 Noise
  - d. Chapter 141, Article II Unruly Gathering
  - e. Chapter 144(5)(E) Request for Tenant Names
- III. Comparison to County Noise Code
- IV. Code Enforcement Policy on Noise/Nuisance Officer Safety
- V. Rutgers Training Program and Certification
- VI. Sound Meters and Calibration
- VII. University of Maryland Code of Student Conduct Referral
- VIII. Recommendations
- IX. Questions and Answers

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

For safety, the City of College Park dispatches a City Contract Police (CPO) with a City Code Officer investigating noise complaints. Using DPIE or other civilian County inspectors for noise enforcement would still require Police assistance to protect the inspector.

Prince George's County Police could enforce the County Noise Ordinance. County Council may wish to discuss this option with the Police Chief and County Executive.



Home About Us V For You V University Student Judiciary V Refer

HOME > REFER AN INCIDENT

# **Refer an Incident**

The Office of Student Conduct receives and investigates referrals for Academic Misconduct and Non-Academic Misconduct. All other reporting options listed are managed by other University of Maryland offices and departments and do **not** operate under the same processes and policies as the Office of Student Conduct.

#### IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 9-1-1.

#### OSC: Academic Misconduct

Refer a possible incident not aligned with the University's Code of Academic Integrity.

Academic Misconduct Referral Form

#### OSC: Non-Academic Misconduct

Refer a possible incident not aligned with the University's Code of Student Conduct.

Non-Academic Misconduct Referral Form

#### OCRSM: Sexual Misconduct & Civil Rights Concerns

View reporting options through the Office of Civil

Rights and Sexual Misconduct.

Report a Sexual Misconduct & Civil Rights Concern—

#### **BISS: Bias Incidents**

Report a hate bias incident to Bias Incident Support Services through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Hate Bias Incident Report Form

#### **BETA: Behavioral Concerns**

Report a concern about a person with the Behavior Evaluation & Threat Assessment Team.

Student/Faculty/Staff Concern Report

#### UMPD: Immediate Emergencies

Call #3333 from any Verizon Wireless, ATT, Sprint/Nextel or T-Mobile cell phone, or 301-405-3333 for immediate UMD campus police services.

# COMMUNITY NOISE ENFORCEMENT

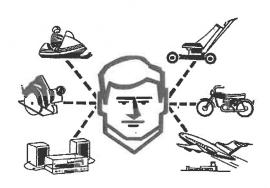


March 2019

RUTGERS

THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY
NOISE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

# COMMUNITY NOISE ENFORCEMENT



A manual to accompany the certification course "Community Noise Enforcement." The certification conferred by this course is recognized in jurisdictions throughout the United States.

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College Park, Maryland March 2019

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#### Introduction

Unregulated sources of noise can have impacts far beyond the obvious transitory nuisance, and complainants may be enduring more than simple annoyance. Exposure to loud noise has been shown to result in uncontrollable stress which can result in alterations in mood as well as hormonal and nervous system changes in healthy subjects (Brier, 1987; Babish, 2003). A lack of control over noise results in a variety of neurobiological and behavioral alterations, a phenomenon known as "learned helplessness" (Brier, 1987). It has been demonstrated that blood pressure is reproducibly elevated in response to intermittent loud noise (Sawada, 1993). The noxious stimulus of noise has been used as a laboratory model for producing stress because it results in the same biological and physiological responses as other stressors (Suter, 1992). Noise has been clearly implicated in sleep disturbance (Lukas, 1977), resulting in a cascade of negative effects (WHO, 2009). The stress, tension and fatigue associated with long-term exposure to noise has destroyed marriages, cost people their jobs and forced other people to sell their houses at significant losses (RNTAC, 1991-2019).

In 1974, the United States Environmental Protection Agency estimated that nearly 100 million Americans lived in areas where the daily average noise levels exceeded its identified safe L<sub>dn</sub> (Day Night Level) of 55 dB (EPA, 1974). In 1990, that estimate had risen to 138 million people (Eldred, 1990). In a 2003 study, 23% of the population of the Netherlands, with a population density similar to much of Prince George's County, described themselves as "highly disturbed by noise during sleep," as compared to five years earlier when that number was 19% (WHO, 2009).

While most enforcement officers may have no jurisdiction over noise sources such as aircraft, road noise and railroads, we can still improve the quality of life for complainants who are exposed to a whole range of noise sources. It is equally as important to educate the regulated community as to what their legal responsibilities are. Once it has been demonstrated that a noise source is not in compliance with the applicable ordinance, there exists significant leverage to gain compliance.

The course "Community Noise Enforcement," and this manual by the same name, have been designed to aid enforcement officers, the regulated community and noise consultants to gain a clear understanding of the applicable noise ordinance(s), and the requirements for their proper enforcement. They are both geared towards real-world enforcement situations, and the possible tactics that might be used to challenge the validity of an enforcement action. Attention to detail is vital.

The certification conferred by this course is required of all enforcement officers in the State of New Jersey, and is also recognized in jurisdictions across the entire United States and beyond.

We sincerely appreciate this opportunity to assist you in bringing a better quality of life for the wonderful residents of College Park and Bowie.

#### Eric M. Zwerling, M.S., INCE, ASA Director, Rutgers Noise Technical Assistance Center

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EPA, 1974. Information on Levels of Environmental Noise Requisite to Protect Public Health and Welfare with an Adequate Margin of Safety. EPA 550/9-74-004, U.S. EPA, Washington, D.C.

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Sawada, Yukihiro. 1993. Reproducible increases in blood pressure during intermittent noise exposure: underlying haemodynamic mechanisms specific to passive coping. Eur. J. Appl. Physiol. 67:367-374.

Suter, A. 1992. Noise Sources and Effects. Sound and Vibration. V.26. Jan., 18-38.

World Health Organization. 2009. Night Noise Guidelines for Europe. Copenhagen, Denmark.

#### **ASSORTED NOISE IMPACTS**

NOISE PRODUCES ELEVATED BLOOD PRESSURE, FASTER HEART RATES AND INCREASED NEUROENDOCRINE HORMONE LEVELS

NOISE HAS BEEN USED BY THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY
TO INDUCE STRESS FOR DRUG TRIALS

NOISE CAN CAUSE REGULAR AND PREDICTABLE STRESS ON THE HUMAN BODY

PERCEIVED LACK OF CONTROL - THE "LEARNED HELPLESSNESS" SYNDROME

PEOPLE DO NOT GET USED TO NOISE - THE BODY CONTINUES TO REACT NOISE EFFECTS THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF SLEEP

WHEN SLEEP IS DISTURBED, WORK EFFICIENCY AND HEALTH MAY SUFFER
NOISE MAY AGGRAVATE EXISTING DISEASE

THE SICK AND ELDERLY ARE MORE SENSITIVE TO DISRUPTIVE NOISE

THE FETUS IS NOT FULLY PROTECTED FROM NOISE

NOISE DISRUPTS THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS & HINDERS LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

NOISE CAN OBSCURE WARNING SIGNALS, CAUSING ACCIDENTS TO HAPPEN

NOISE INTERFERES WITH CONVERSATION AND SOCIAL INTERACTION

NOISE DISRUPTS THE PEACEABLE ENJOYMENT OF ONE'S PRIVATE PROPERTY

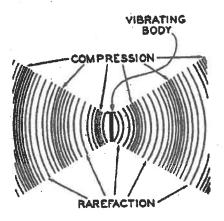
NOISE CAN CAUSE EXTREME EMOTIONS AND BEHAVIOR

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR CAUSED BY NOISE MAY BE MORE PREVALENT THAN IS REALIZED

THERE ARE DOCUMENTED CASES OF NOISE-INDUCED
ARSON - ASSAULT - MURDER - SUICIDE

# SOUND

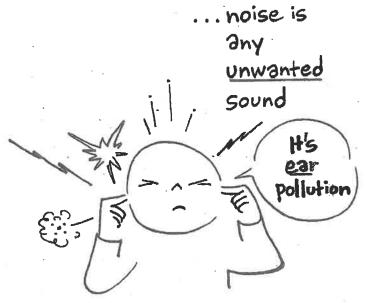
Sound waves are a series of compressions and rarefactions within a medium



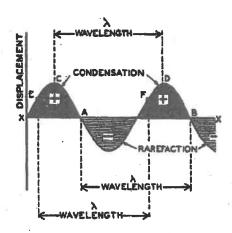
Propagation of a sound wave due to a vibrating body

# NOISE

Occurs when these sound waves reach a sensitized receptor



## PROPERTIES OF SOUND



Displacement-time graph of a sound wave

#### **INTENSITY**

The bigger the compression, the larger the amplitude, the more the energy, the 'louder' it is.

dB- Decibel
The unit of measure and reporting

The decibel scale is logarithmic, 3 dB = a doubling of intensity. However, 10 dB = a doubling of perceived loudness (6 dB at the lowest frequencies).

SPL (dB) = 20 log 10 P<sub>Measured</sub>/P<sub>Reference</sub>

The average threshold of human perception is 20 micropascals ( $\mu$ Pa) or 0.0002 microbarthis is set as the reference number-

Therefore,
O (zero) decibels is the average threshold of human hearing,
not the absence of sound pressure.

0 dB threshold of hearing - - - 130,140 dB threshold of pain

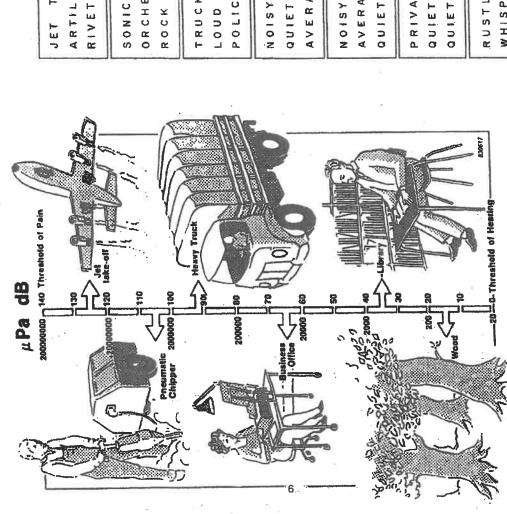


Fig. 5-3. Examples of some typical sound levels, expressed in micropascals on the left side of the scale and decibels on the right. (From bruel & Kjaer, 1984, reproduced with permission.)

	DECIBELS	3
JET TAKE-OFF ARTILLERY FIRE RIVETING	120	DEAFENING
SONIC BOOM ORCHESTRA MUSIC FORTISSIMO		
TRUCK UNMUFFLED LOUD STREET NOISE POLICE WHISTLE		VERY LOUD
NOISY OFFICE QUIET TYPEWRITER AVERAGE RADIO		Loub
NOISY HOME AVERAGE CONVERSATION QUIET RADIO		MODERATE
PRIVATE OFFICE QUIET HOME	(8)	) F A i N T
RUSTLE OF LEAVES WHISPER HUMAN BREATHING	9	VERY FAINT

Fig. 3.5 Sound pressure levels of representative sounds and notees.

The County Council for Prince George's County, Maryland, hereby declares it to be the public policy of the County that every resident of the County is entitled to noise levels that are not detrimental to health, safety, or welfare and the use, enjoyment and protection of property; and the general intent of this Division is to control noise levels throughout the County so as to promote public health, safety, welfare, the peace and quiet of the inhabitants of the County.

(CB-21-2011; CB-18-2018)

#### Sec. 19-121. - Definitions.

- (a) For the purposes of this Division, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this Section:
  - (1) **Commercial** means anything other than a residential zone or industrial zone as set forth in Subtitle 27.
  - (1.1) **Construction** means temporary activities directly associated with site preparation, assembly, erection, repair, alteration, or demolition of structures or roadways.
    - (2) **dBA** means decibels of sound, as determined by the A-weighting network of a sound level meter or by calculation from octave band or one-third octave band data.
    - (3) **Daytime** means the hours from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
    - (4) **Decibel** means a unit of measure equal to 10 times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of a particular sound pressure squared to the standard reference pressure squared. The standard reference pressure is 20 micropascals.
    - (5) **Department** shall mean the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement or another authorized designee agency or department.
    - (6) **Director** shall mean the Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement for Prince George's County, Maryland, or their authorized designee.
    - (7) Enforcement officer means:
      - (A) for a noise originating from any source:
        - (i) an employee or agent of the Department designated by the Director to enforce this Division;
        - (ii) a police officer; or
      - (B) for a noise originating from an animal source, the Director of the Animal Control Division or the Director's authorized designee within the Department of the Environment.
  - (7.1) **Industrial Zone** means any property that has been zoned industrial.

**Landlord** shall mean the person who manages, leases, holds, or otherwise controls the property of an owner.

- (9) **Nighttime** means the hours from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- (10) **Noise** means sound, created or controlled by human activity, from one or more sources, heard by an individual over a period of time.
- (11) Noise disturbance means any noise that is:
  - (A) unpleasant, annoying, offensive, loud, or obnoxious;
  - (B) unusual for the time of day or location where it is produced or heard;
  - (C) detrimental to the health, comfort, quality of life, or safety of any individual or to the reasonable enjoyment of property or the lawful conduct of business because of the loudness, duration, or character of the noise or;
  - (D) exceeds the objective standards of this Division.
- (12) **Noise-suppression plan** means a written plan to use the most effective noise-suppression equipment, materials, and methods appropriate and reasonably available for a particular type of construction.
- (13) **Owner** shall mean the person listed on the tax records of the County as the property owner.
- (14) **Person** means an individual, group of individuals, corporation, firm, partnership, or voluntary association; or a department, bureau, agency, or instrument of the County or any municipality, or of any other government to the extent allowed by law.
- (15) **Police Chief or officer** shall mean the Chief of the Prince George's County Police Department, a sworn member of the Prince George's County Police Department, or their authorized designee.
- (16) **Receiving property** means any real property where people live or work and where noise is heard, including an apartment, condominium unit, or cooperative building unit.
- (17) **Residential** means any property in a residential zone as set forth in Subtitle 27.
- (18) **Residential area** is an area located within a residential or rural and agricultural zone listed in Subtitle 27 of this Code, including residential areas abutting Transit-Oriented/Activity Center zones and mixed-use, commercial, and industrial areas as defined in Subtitle 27.
- (19) **Recreational or Entertainment Establishment** is an establishment as defined in Subtitle 27 of this Code.
- (20) **Sound** means an auditory sensation evoked by the oscillation of air pressure.
- (21) **Source** means any person, installation, device, or animal causing or contributing to noise.

(CB-21-2011; CB-27-2014; CB-18-2018; CB-99-2021)

- (a) Maximum allowable noise levels.
  - (1) Except as otherwise provided in <u>Section 19-122.01</u>, a person must not cause or permit noise levels that exceed the following levels:

Maximum Allowable Noise Levels (dBA) for Receiving Land Use Categories							
Day/Night	Industrial	Commercial	Residential				
Day	75	67	65				
Night	75	62	55				

- (2) A person must not cause or permit the emission of a prominent discrete tone or impulsive noise that exceeds a level, at the location on a receiving property where noise from the source is greatest, that is 5 dBA lower than the level set in paragraph (1) for the applicable noise area and time. Impulsive noise may include, for example, noise from weapons fire, pile drivers, or punch presses.
- (3) Sound that crosses between residential and non-residential areas must not exceed the level set in paragraph (1) for residential noise areas.
- (b) Noise disturbance. A person must not cause or permit noise that creates a noise disturbance.
- (c) Examples. The following examples illustrate common noise-producing acts that violate this section if they exceed the noise level standards set in subsection (a) or create a noise disturbance. The examples are illustrative only and do not limit or expand the noise level or noise disturbance standards of this section:
  - (1) Sounding a horn or other signaling device on any motor vehicle on private property except:
    - (A) in an emergency; or
    - (B) as a danger warning signal during daytime hours if the device complies with noise level limits.
  - (2) Operating a sound-producing device on public streets for commercial advertising or to attract public attention.
  - (3) Selling anything by outcry.
  - (4) Loading, unloading, opening, closing or otherwise handling containers, building materials, construction equipment, or similar objects.
  - (5) Operating a device that produces, reproduces, or amplifies sound.

(6) Allowing an animal to create a noise disturbance.

(CB-21-2011; CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-122.01. - Noise level and noise disturbance standards for construction.

- (a) Maximum allowable noise levels for construction.
  - (1) A person must not cause or permit noise levels from construction activity that exceed the following levels:
    - (A) From 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.:
      - (i) 75 dBA if the Department has not approved a noise-suppression plan for the activity; or
      - (ii) 85 dBA if the Department has approved a noise-suppression plan for the activity.
    - (B) The level specified in <u>Section 19-122(a)</u> at all other times.
  - (2) Construction noise levels must be measured at the location, at least 50 feet from the source, on a receiving property where noise from the source is greatest.
  - (3) The Department must establish requirements for noise-suppression plans and adopt procedures for evaluating and approving plans. The requirements must provide that, at least 10 days before approving a noise-suppression plan, the Director must provide public notice reasonably calculated to reach at least a majority of households that might be affected by the construction activity noise levels above 75 dBA.
- (b) Construction noise disturbance. The prohibition on noise disturbance in <u>Section 19-122(b)</u> applies to construction activities, notwithstanding subsection (a).

(CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-122.02. - Waivers.

- (a) Temporary waiver.
  - (1) The Director may waive any part of this Division for a temporary event if the noise the event will create or cause in excess of the limits established under this Division is offset by the benefits of the event to the public.
  - (2) When the Director receives an application under this subsection, the Director must provide public notice of the application reasonably calculated to reach at least a majority of households that might be affected by noise levels anticipated for the event. The Director must not approve an application under this subsection less than 10 days after the public notice.
- (b) General waiver.
  - (1) The Director may waive any part of this Division if the Director determines that compliance in a particular case is not practical and would impose undue hardship.

- (2) When the Director receives an application under this subsection, the Director must schedule a hearing on the application within 60 days.
- (3) At least 30 days before the hearing, the applicant must advertise the hearing by:
  - (A) placing a display advertisement in a newspaper of general circulation in the community where the source that is the subject of the application is located; and
  - (B) posting a sign at the location of the source.
- (4) Based on evidence presented at the hearing, the Director may grant a waiver for up to 3 years, under terms and conditions appropriate to reduce the impact of the exception.
- (5) The Director may renew a waiver granted under this subsection if the applicant shows that the circumstances supporting the original waiver have not changed.
- (c) Violation of waiver. The Director may suspend, modify, or revoke a waiver granted under this section if a person violates the terms or conditions of the waiver.
- (d) Regulations and fees. The Director must issue regulations implementing this section that:
  - (1) set the procedures and fees to apply for a waiver under subsections (a) or (b);
  - (2) require the applicant to use the best technology and strategy reasonably available to mitigate noise, as determined by the Director;
  - (3) allow temporary waivers under subsection (a) of no more than 30 days, renewable at the discretion of the Director no more than twice; and
  - (4) specify the requirements for the hearing advertisement and sign required under subsection (b)(3).

(CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-123. - Exceptions.

The following noise generating activities shall be exempt from enforcement under this Division:

- (a) any sound resulting from the emergency operation of a public service company or their contractors as defined in Section 1-101(x), Public Utilities Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland or resulting from emergency operations by fire and rescue services, and police agencies;
- (b) any sound resulting from the operations of an instrumentality of the Federal, State, or County government, the Board of Education, a bi-county agency, or of a municipality;
- (c) a sound resulting from the operation of an aircraft.
- (d) an outdoor event on private property for which a valid use and occupancy permit has been issued for purposes of sporting, recreational, entertainment establishment, or for any other event to which the public is invited; or

an event or activity with a validly issued permit, license or other written authority which takes place on property owned by the United States, the State, the County, and the Board of Education, a bi-county agency, or a municipality.

- (f) farm equipment being used on more than five (5) acres or outside of one hundred (100) feet of the property line.
- (g) lawn care, snow removal equipment and other household tools or equipment when used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- (h) a source or condition expressly subject to any State or federal noise-control law or regulation. (CB-21-2011; CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-124. - Enforcement and penalties.

- (a) Any person, who after instructed to cease the noise, shall allow or cause a continued violation of this Section shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine not exceeding \$500.00 for a first offense, and \$1,000.00 for each subsequent offense or imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day a violation continues is a separate offense.
- (b) As an alternative to criminal action, the Director, Police Chief, enforcement officer or police officer may issue a civil citation for any violation of this Section not exceeding \$500.00 for a first offense, and \$1,000.00 for each subsequent offense.
- (c) Violations of this Section may be reviewed by the Administrative Court as established in Subtitle 13, Division 15.

(CB-21-2011; CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-125. - Civil citation to owner or landlord.

- (a) The Director, Chief of Police, police officer, enforcement officer, or a designee may issue a civil citation to the owner or landlord of the building or premises from which noise in violation of <a href="Section 19-122">Section 19-122</a> of this title emanates, if more than three civil citations have been filed against an occupant, at one address, within a 60-day period.
- (b) The Director, Chief of Police, police officer, enforcement officer, or a designee may issue additional civil citations for each subsequent violation within 6 months after the initial citation of the owner or landlord.
- (c) Before issuing a citation, the Director, Chief of Police, enforcement officer, police officer or a designee shall send by certified mail or deliver written notice to the owner or landlord that two citations have been filed under <u>Section 19-122</u> of this title within a 60-day period.

(CB-21-2011; CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-126. - Measurement of Sound.

- (a) The Department must issue regulations establishing the equipment and techniques it will use to measure sound levels. The Department may rely on currently accepted standards of recognized organizations, including the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (b) If the Department adopts regulations based on currently accepted standards of recognized organizations referenced in subsection(s), a prima facia violation may be established by the Department utilizing a commercially available noise meter that complies with the standards in subsection (a).
- (c) For multiple sources of sound, the Department may measure sound levels at any point to determine the source of a noise.

(CB-18-2018)

Sec. 19-127. - through Sec. 19-129 Reserved.